

#### REMARKS

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 have been cancelled, which claims 2 and 3 have been made proper independent claims and include the limitations of claim 1; claims 8 and 9 have been made proper independent claims and include the limitations of claim 7; claims 14 and 15 have been made proper independent claims and include the limitations of claim 13; and claims 20 and 21 have been made proper independent claims and include the limitations of claim 19. In addition, claim 4 now depends from claim 3, and claim 5 now depends from claim 2; claim 10 now depends from claim 9, and claim 11 now depends from claim 8; claim 16 now depends from claim 15, and claim 17 now depends from claim 14; claim 22 now depends from claim 21, and claim 23 now depends from claim 20. Finally, the claims have been amended for clarity.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,324,338 to Wood et al.

The Wood et al. patent discloses a video data recorder with integrated channel guides, in which a processor 101 determines if there is sufficient room on the video storage 105 (disk) to record a desired program. If so, the program is recorded. If not, the processor 101 makes a determination as to whether there are recorded shows which may be removed. This determination may be

based on whether the show selected for removal has a lower priority than the desired program.

The subject invention concerns the recording and managing of programs stored on, for example, a disk drive, in which a video memory manager detects whether there is sufficient room on the disk drive to store a desired video program. If so, the desired video program is recorded. If not, the video memory manager determines a first and a second retention score associated with a first and a second one of a plurality of video programs already stored on the disk drive. The memory manager then deletes the least desirable one of said first and second video programs.

Thus far, the subject invention is similar to that disclosed in Wood et al. However, in addition, as claimed in claim 2 (and claims 8, 14 and 20), the subject invention, instead of merely deleting the least desirable video program, replaces the least desirable video program with "a program abstract identifying and describing said deleted least desirable video program."

The Examiner indicates that this feature of the present invention is disclosed in Wood et al. at col. 4, lines 46-50.

Applicants believe that the Examiner is mistaken. In particular, this section of Wood et al. states:

"Another personal channel may be established to store news broadcasts. If the show to be recorded is, for example, a new episode of the situation comedy, the earliest episode of the situation comedy in the personal channel may be deleted."

This portion of Wood et al. describes the situation where the use has designated "person channels" (i.e., folders on the disk) for storing specific programming, one of the channels being all episodes of a specific situation comedy. As such, when a new episode of the situation comedy is to be recorded and there is insufficient space, the earliest episode of the situation comedy is deleted. However, Applicants submit that Wood et al. neither discloses nor suggests that an abstract of the deleted program should be inserted in place of the deleted program.

Alternatively to storing an abstract of the deleted program, the subject invention, as claimed in claim 3 (and claims 9, 15 and 21), "compresses said least desirable video program prior to deleting said least desirable video program, and stores said compressed least desirable video program in place of said deleted least desirable video program."

The Examiner indicates that this feature of the subject invention is disclosed in Wood et al. at col. 3, lines 59-62 (the video compressor/decompressor 112).

Applicants submit that Wood et al. only discloses the existence of video compressor/decompressor 112, and indicates that it may be used for compressing and decompressing the video signals, and that the video signals may already be received in a compressed format and as such only the decompressor need be used. However,


Applicants note that Wood et al. neither discloses or suggests that the least desirable video program should be compressed prior to being deleted, and the compressed least desirable video program should be stored in place of the deleted least desirable video program.

Applicants further submit that since Wood et al. neither discloses or suggests the selective compressing and storing of the least desirable video program in place of the deleted least desirable video program, then surely Wood et al. neither discloses or suggest the further deletion of the compressed least desirable video program if it is determined that there is still insufficient room on the disk drive, as claimed in claim 4 (and claims 10, 16 and 22).

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the subject invention, as claimed, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art, and as such, is patentable thereover.

Applicants believe that this application, containing claims 2-6, 8-12, 14-18 and 20-24, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

by   
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On July 27, 2004  
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